GOAL FOUR

Increase professional development opportunities for North Dakota school staff to ensure students have adequate technology instruction.



STRATEGIES

- Implement the use of interactive video networking and web delivery for professional development opportunities for K-12 educators.
- Ongoing strategies.

In order for students to excel in a high-tech environment, educators must be trained to use technology and feel comfortable with it before they can incorporate it in their courses. Additionally, technology support staff must have the training they need to keep networks and systems operational.

Interactive video networking is an excellent way for school administrators, technology coordinators, teachers and board members to receive training and instruction. High-speed networks allow school representatives to meet with individuals in other locations to hold meetings, discuss information and technology, and provide learning sessions. With the continued development and support of video networking, school systems will reduce travel expenses and time away from the classroom.

Another opportunity for professional development is web delivery. Much like video networking, web delivery is convenient for teachers and administrators because they can connect to the Internet from any location and receive training at their convenience.

Professional development opportunities developed by EduTech will continue to be delivered to schools by the EduTech lead staff and regional support personnel. Training for administrators, technology coordinators and distance education teachers will continue to be focused on applications to engage all educators in practices that allow them to be more efficient and effective in classroom management and instruction. Teacher training will include both basic technology skills and advanced curriculum integration sessions based on authentic classroom activities.

Technology can eliminate distance barriers for North Dakota educators and enable them to learn and instruct — worldwide. EduTech will continue to develop and deliver new professional development opportunities for North Dakota educators using video networking and web delivery. Because of the progress our state has already made, a variety of opportunities provide flexibility for educators in terms of time, place and frequency of training opportunities.

"Interactive video networking has created enormous opportunites and potential for citizens across North Dakota. Already, the impact of video conferencing has left lasting impressions on high school and college students, adult learners, and public sector employees."



"It is essential that our teachers have the necessary skills and tools to integrate technology into the curriculum and use new methods of delivery."